

# <u>NEWSLETTER</u>

**Endeavour Academy Newsletter** 

### Message From The Principal



Dear parents, guardians and friends of Endeavour Academy,

Another half term is over and at Endeavour we have had a fantastic time with lots of amazing learning, positive interactions, sharing and new experiences taking place.

Our term started with a staff training session where we all engaged in further understanding of Positive Behaviour Support as a nationwide strategy. Staff team explored specific tools for accessing behaviours and focussing on alternative strategies and approaches.

This term we welcomed a number of placement students including Oxford Brooks PGCE students, Hertfordshire University Learning Disability Nurse, a number of Social Care Students and a Professor from Spain. We have also delivered a training session in Autism and learning environment for our colleagues from mainstream settings.

We are always working on improving learning opportunities and the physical environment and our pupils now have access to three different gym bikes across the school which are located in the corridors. This equipment gives pupils the opportunity to have sensory breaks and access to instant physical exercise as well as the chance to try various gym equipment.

Endeavour has been privileged to access a concert from Boogie Monsters, part of the Music for Autism project. We always enjoy concerts offered to us and our pupils love singing and dancing around the hall all day. We were also very happy to see Sheila Hore again after her long recovery from ankle injury. She delivers Pottery workshops for our pupils and we are hoping to showcase our products on the school website soon.

We have lots on exciting projects planned for the next few terms and we will keep you updated via Twitter, Facebook and our website.

Hope you all enjoy your Half Term break and I am looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Michaela Soporova

#### Spring Term Dates

25/02/19	Back to School
28/02/19	<b>Rosie Shepperd Clinic</b>
1/03/19	Pottery Workshop
4/03/19	<b>Rosie Sheppard Clinic</b>
7/03/19	<b>Rosie Sheppard Clinic</b>
15/03/19	Red Nose Day
18/03/19	INSET DAY
25/03—05/04	Living Eggs
26/03/19	Parability Day
05/04/19	Easter Egg Hunt
05/04/19	Last day of term
24/04/19	Back to School

#### **Staff Section**

We welcome new members of staff: Luis Rosa, Anna Roig Gras and Maite Anzar.

Sian Pratchett our OT left us on Thursday 7th February to meet with an exciting new challenge. We will miss her but feel very lucky to welcome Nicola McMichael back in to the role of OT assistant.

Lucie Vasko, previously our After School Club Coordinator, came to visit with her beautiful new baby Nikolas.. He was thoroughly cuddled and admired by all.



#### New Development at Endeavour

We are pleased to announce a new development at Endeavour.

We have plans to develop the redundant kitchen space within the School to a multi purpose area.

This space will include a food technology section . Our Students will be thrilled to have the space to expand their culinary skills.

There will be a new social area for all to enjoy and a much needed second meeting room ..

Work will start on this project in March.

#### TWITTER & FACEBOOK

We often tweet things that happen at Endeavour,or when out and about in the community. Please follow us on Twitter @ MATEndeavour\_ac to see some of our tweets.

#### School Events and News

#### New Interactive Sensory Floor

Endeavour has acquired an interactive Sensory Floor.

This is an amazing piece of technology that engages the user and encourages great cause and effect learning in a fun interactive way. With the use of motion tracking technology an image will change to the movement of the body passing over it. The user simply moves their hand or foot over the image which is projected on to the floor to make something happen. For example, A projected keyboard which allows the user to select different instruments.

As the keyboard is activated the sound of the instrument will play. There is also a water effect template which when touched the water will ripple and fish will swim.

The Scatter template is amazing, creatures such as Butterflies will scatter when approached, the fun begins when trying to capture them.

Please take a look at the website for more information: www.omi.uk

#### **Music for Autism**

Members of Music for Autism visited us on the 28th January. This always induces a feeling of excitement and fun for Staff and Students alike. As the music filters through the corridors of Endeavour we are all uplifted and enriched by the experience.

#### Pottery

Students have enjoyed designing and creating in our Pottery Workshop, items such as Butterflies, Elephants and a Snake Dragon !

#### ADVIZA

Post 16 students have had the opportunity to meet with a careers advisor to discuss their future options. This has proved to be very beneficial and has provided some very interesting information and ideas.

#### **Fund Raising**

We wore red items of clothing on Friday 15th Feb at a cost of  $\pounds 1$ , proceeds will be donated to the British Heart Foundation.

#### The Daily Mail Great Britain Spring Clean

Students and Staff will be taking part in the Daily Mail Great Britain Spring Clean.

This will be held from 22/03/19—23/04/19.

The plan is to get as many of our Students involved in collecting litter from around the School and local area. This promotes a positive environmental message and encourages integration into the local community.

### **Square Class**



to

being within close proximity to



















To use the name of the person when making a PECS











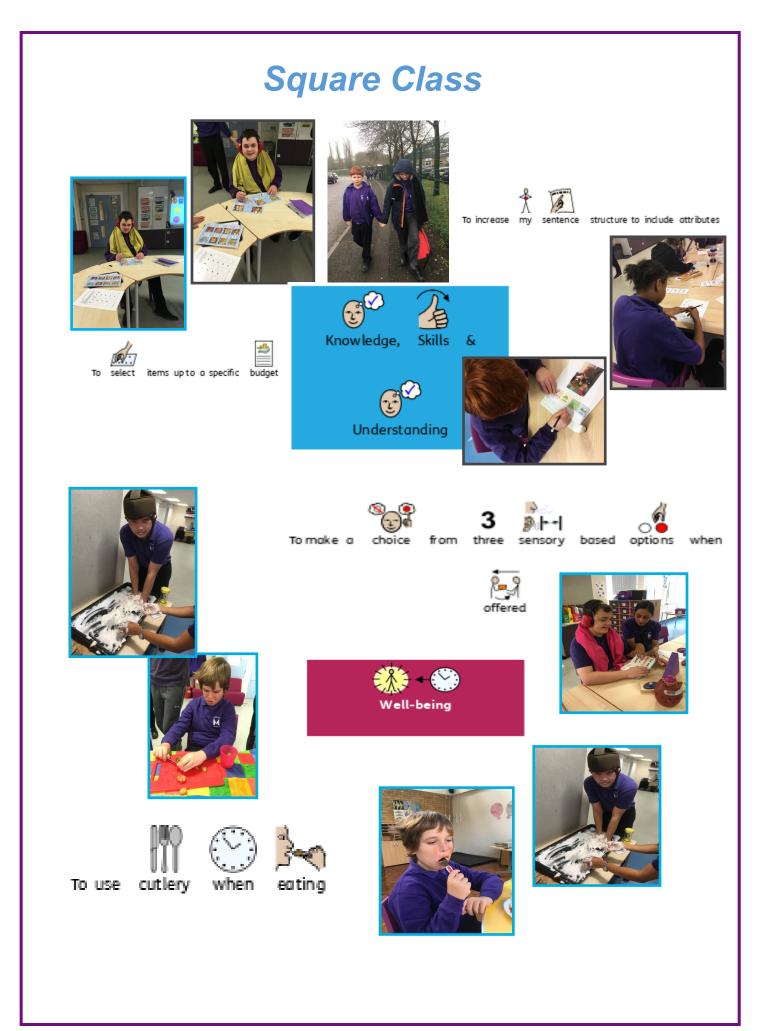


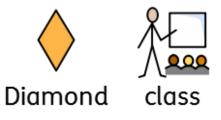


Independence



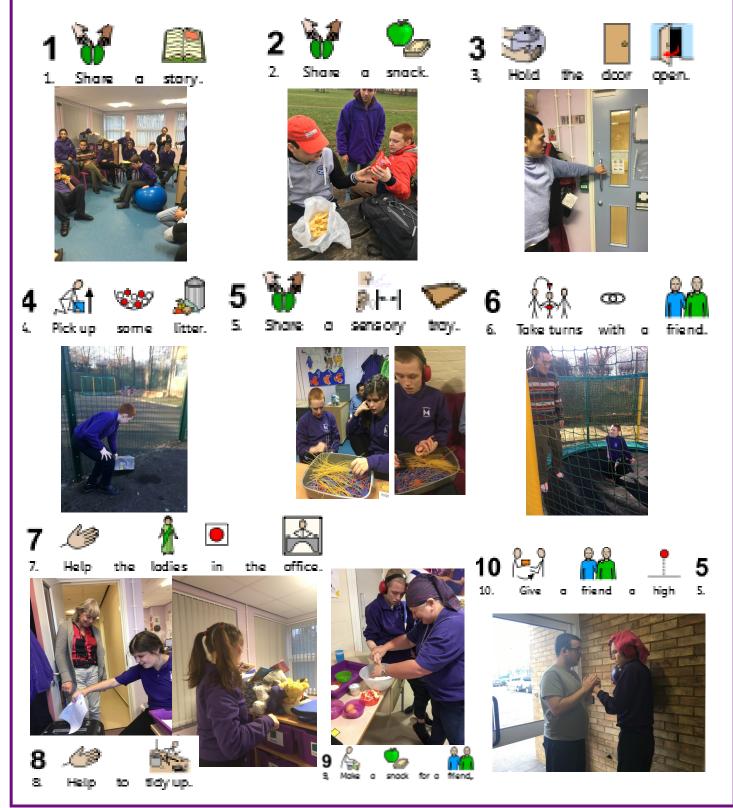






Diamond class have had a very busy half term working on our

kindness challenges ready for Random Acts of Kindness Day.



### **Circle Class**





#### Post 16 have had a great start to 2019!!

Our students are now accessing public transportation to travel to exciting locations such as Aylesbury, Thame, Abingdon, Bicester and Oxford. We have also successfully launched our brand new enterprise project 'Toasty Tuesday' which students and staff are extremely excited about. Our post 16 Enterprise projects are a fantastic way for all our students across the school to gain work experience opportunities in a variety of areas. This is accomplished by completing a range of tasks which are adapted to be accessed by all ages and abilities. These tasks include food preparation, taking orders, welcoming and serving customers and operating our cash register to help practice money handling skills. We are also so impressed with all the hard work and determination by students putting into complete ASDAN modules as well as accessing MAP (Abingdon & Witney College) for weekly visits.



# Star Class

Star Class enjoyed a visit by 'Music for Autism' this term. Some of our students were enthused by the music and volunteered to sing songs to the rest of the group with support of a pianist and another singer. Mizan and John performed some of our favourite songs in front of the their friends at school.









Our students have been out in the community, exploring their local surroundings and developing life skills. Sasha and Angel have had regular visits to a local wood. These visits have encouraged Sasha to share happy experiences with his peers. Both students benefit from enjoying local nature with their peers and good, healthy exercise. Our students have also had weekly shopping trips that have developed their literacy and maths skills out in the community as well as promoting travel training.









We have a variety of work experience for the students in star class. Some students visit a local café to help with vegetable preparation or sandwich making. We have also helped circle class with the jacket potato enterprise project. Five of our students have weekly visits to a farm, either Vana Farm near Brill or Farmability near Wolvercote. Students have shown good progress in independence, following instructions and developing a range of experiences at the farms. They have also learnt to be hardy to the cold British winter and to work hard regardless of the conditions. We have been very proud of their achievements.





## **Triangle Class**

This half-term our class challenges have been about healthy living as we have been working towards taking part in the British Heart Foundation AllStar games. This has involved our young people buying and trying vegetables linked to the story—Soup Day, participating in Body Awareness sessions and practising washing hands and feet and brushing teeth as part of our Personal Care routines. To keep fit we have enjoyed winter walks, used play equipment in the local parks, had fun at Thomley Hall and danced to Boogie Monsters. Alongside this we have been thinking about others by making healthy bird feeders and sharing space with friends from other classes.



# After School Club

We have started the new year with fun and relaxing activities. We have been out in the local community exploring and the students have been choosing their preferred activities. We have also had another visit from our friends from St. Edwards.



### Newsletter Endeavour House February 2019

At Endeavour house this term, the children have been enjoying lots of activities, such as swimming, Cinema, Trampolining and wall climbing.

Enjoying trips to soft play and going on nice walks in Shotover.







Some of our students enjoyed a great day at Winter Wonderland where they had a good time going on the rides and enjoying all the activates that were available.



Due to the weather being extremely cold, the children have also been enjoying indoor activates.

Playing on the x-box and kindles and taking part in arts and crafts.











# Nurturing Programme

**Beginning 30 April 2019** 



### Children are rewarding and fun...

... but looking after them can be stressful and challenging.

The Nurturing Programme helps to deal with those challenges so you can have a **calmer, happier family life.** 



There are ten 2-hour sessions



Refreshments and crèche provided

### What does it cover?

UNDERSTANDING WHY CHILDREN BEHAVE AS THEY DO

1



EXPLORING DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO DISCIPLINE

3

LEARNING THE IMPORTANCE OF LOOKING

For further information please call Jo Smith at the Carterton Family Centre on 07973 943 903